

REMARKS

This Amendment is fully responsive to the final Office Action dated August 15, 2008, issued in connection with the above-identified application. Claims 1-35 were previously pending in the present application. With this Amendment, claims 1-7, 11, 13-20 and 25-35 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter therein, and claims 36-40 have been added. Accordingly, claims 8-10, 12, 21-24 and 36-40 are all the claims currently pending in the present application. No new matter has been introduced by the amendments made to the claims or by the new claims added. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 34 and 35 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 for allegedly being directed to non-statutory subject matter. With this Amendment, claims 34 and 35 have been canceled rendering the above rejection under 35 U.S.C. 101 to those claims moot.

In the Office Action, claims 1, 2, 13, 14, 25 and 28-35 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jakubowski (U.S. Patent No. 7,054,443, hereafter “Jakubowski”), in view of Chea (U.S. Patent No. 7,076,432, hereafter “Chea”). Additionally, claims 3-7, 11, 15-20, 26 and 27 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jakubowski in view of Chea, and further in view of Lipscomb (U.S. Patent No. 7,020,704).

With this Amendment, claims 1-7, 11, 13-20 and 25-35 have been canceled, thereby rendering the above rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) to those claims moot.

In the Office Action, claims 8-10, 12 and 21-24 have been deemed allowable by the Examiner. Specifically, the Examiner indicates that the cited prior art fails to anticipate or render obvious the features of claims 8-10, 12 and 21-24.

As noted above, all the rejected claims have been canceled from the present application, thereby leaving allowed claims 8-10, 12 and 21-24 remaining in the present application. Additionally, new claims 36-40 are corresponding program claims that include respectively the features of allowed independent claims 8 and 21-24. Additionally, program claims 36-40 are believed to conform to the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 101. Accordingly, new claims 36-40 are also not anticipated or rendered obvious by the cited prior art.

In light of the above, the Applicants respectfully submit that all the pending claims are patentable over the prior art of record. The Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner

withdraw the rejections presented in the Office Action dated August 15, 2008, and pass this application to issue. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney by telephone to resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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